

**A Boy's Letter About Chicago.**

The Philadelphia Post publishes the following letter, written by a bright little Chicago boy of ten years :

CHICAGO, Oct. 9, 1871.

DEAR MOTHER : No one can imagine how large the fire is here. I am now going to attempt to describe it. As the fire is raging I am composing the following verses :

CHICAGO.

City of fire, wrapped in flames,  
It is burning so brightly  
The extent of a flame, which commanded in one small flame.  
Oh ! how many women and children must we would ruin ;  
I would wish many creatures from pain.  
People who once were vain  
May never be vain again.  
Eight miles of buildings wreathed in light,  
So that they look like a city of light.  
A river no red ! It is turned to blood ?  
No : it will still contain of mud.  
What do I hear? Boom! boom -  
The blowing of steam in a room.  
The fire can be stopped none too soon.

**Facts and Fancies.**

Coming to grief—Meeting trouble half way.

Light employment—Building castles in the air.

The grandest verse in existence—The mine.

A woman voted in Detroit and nobody objected.

Cool proceeding—An ice man eloping with a nice girl.

It is easier for a man to be engaged than to be engaging.

It is no uncommon thing for hot words to produce cold friends.

A Wisconsin Justice of the Peace granted himself a divorce.

"Thunderation Sammel" is the name of a famous Western Indian fighter.

Sponge paper is now manufactured in the materials used are ordinary paper pulp and finely divided sponge.

The army bakery in Washington is

men's no use in abusing the gas companies, for they've always a vile retort ready.

A physician has discovered that the "marijuana," in vogue now out of town, is produced from owing a bill to the printer.

The largest salary paid to a railroad official in the United States is \$180,000, President McGowan of the Reading, Pa., road gets it.

The Massachusetts mills have sent an agent to Hong Kong to employ coolies or operatives. A cargo of them is expected at Salem.

Smoking is very much on the decline in England. At the universities not one man in five now smokes, whereas a few years ago at least four in five did.

Danton said to his executioner: "I am a man of a fine time of it, I bego to sleep; then you will show my head to be people; it is worth the trouble."

An epitaph on a tombstone reads:

Over the door of a cobblers shop in  
Barnes, the sign applied to the  
Bovts and the sign was made hear—ladies  
and shentlemen repaired. Kum in  
eat."

"Can you realise Mrs. Malaprop's be-  
nevolent hearing her grandson read  
from an article in the paper, about  
sionic: "The ground is so parched  
that it is full of fishers!"

In England the extent of land covered  
by trees has increased forty thousand  
acres in the last thirty-five years, and  
re-planting is encouraged among land-  
holders by liberal premiums.

A fellow feeling: Indignant Old  
"Gentleman" says "smoking  
in this compartment?" Obliging Guard  
Haw, well, if nane 'o the gentlemen  
object, you can take a bit draw 'o the

A man, in Ohio, who was acquitted of  
murder on a plea of insanity, secured  
his lawyers by giving them a mortgage  
on his farm; but now repudiates the

"Ma, why don't you speak?" asked little Mike. "Why don't you say 'uthin' funny?" "What can I say? 'Don't you see I'm busy fryin' doughnuts?" said 'uthin' funny, indeed! "Wal, I might as well say 'Don't yer like a cake?" That 'ud be funny for you."

The most hopelessly incurable form of insanity, says Dr. Clouston of the Asylum at Carlisle, England, is the delusion of poisoning, with hallucinations of hearing. It is only by being taken to a time that such a case is ever cured.

It has become known that no one is allowed to come within a mile of the Imperial Palace until he has been examined by an American scientist, as the Russian and Royal families are not limited to robbin'. This is very encouraging to Mrs. Alexandrovitch, who would look on paper,

them follow his son to the grave than him a drunkard, when the young man replied: "Here goes, father," and they both drank a toast to his own head and discharged it.

A friend reports this of a family to which, during the past Summer, he paid a delightful visit in Chicago: "The oldest son was a drunkard, and was killed by a burglar on Saturday night; the house was burned on Sunday night; and now the news comes that the wife committed suicide." "It is the development of a family that annihilated itself and everything."

A lady teacher in a Sunday-school recently had occasion to illustrate a lesson on faith. She asked a child to stand by his father to drop from an elevated place into his arms. The child, of course, could not be seen by the class, but, when commanded to drop, he uttered a cry, and the teacher, who was known by this story, a bright little fellow immediately replied, "It showed he